

U.S.S.N. 10/738,495

- 2 -

WET 0121 PUS

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

1. (currently amended) A vehicle seat comprising a backrest including a backrest cushion and a rear backrest cover, and an air-handling device associated with the backrest and connected to an air distribution device in the seat, wherein the rear backrest cover is at least partially air permeable and covers at least one passage of the air-handling device, and wherein the air exchanged between the environment and the air-handling device passes to a large extent through the air-permeable regions of the rear backrest cover, the backrest cover being made of textile material.

2. (original) A vehicle seat according to claim 1, wherein the air-handling device includes at least one radial or axial fan arranged in the backrest.

3. (original) A vehicle seat according to claim 2, wherein the at least one fan is located in a lower region of the backrest near a floor of the vehicle.

4. (canceled)

5. (canceled)

6. (currently amended) A vehicle seat according to claim [[4]] 1, wherein the backrest cover is made of a woven and knitted textile.

7. (canceled)

8. (original) A vehicle seat according to claim 1, comprising an air-permeable spacer textile arranged between an air intake opening of the air-handling device and the rear backrest cover of the backrest.

9. (canceled)

10. (original) A vehicle seat according to claim 8, wherein the air-permeable spacer textile is a knit spacer.

U.S.S.N. 10/738,495

- 3 -

WET 0121 PUS

11. (original) A vehicle seat according to claim 1, wherein at least one lower region of the backrest cover near a floor of the vehicle is air permeable.

12. (original) A vehicle seat according to claim 3, wherein at least one lower region of the backrest cover near the vehicle floor is air permeable.

13. (original) A vehicle seat according to claim 1, wherein substantially the entire rear backrest cover is air permeable.

14. (original) A vehicle seat according to claim 3, wherein substantially the entire rear backrest cover is air permeable.

15. (currently amended) A vehicle seat according to claim 1, wherein the air-permeable ~~material~~ region of the rear backrest cover is designed as a dust and particle filter.

16. (currently amended) A vehicle seat according to claim 1, wherein the air-permeable ~~material~~ region of the rear backrest cover is designed as a noise-suppressing covering.

17. (original) A vehicle seat according to claim 1 comprising a seating cushion and a second air-handling device connected to a second air distribution device in the seating cushion.

18. (original) An air conditioned seat comprising:  
a backrest having a backrest cushion, a rear backrest cover, a first fan and a first air-distribution device connected to the first fan and located within the backrest cushion;  
a seating cushion having a second fan and a second air-distribution device connected to the second fan and located within the seating cushion; and  
an air-permeable spacer textile arranged between an air intake opening of the first fan and the rear backrest cover,

U.S.S.N. 10/738,495

- 4 -

WET 0121 PUS

wherein the first fan is located in a lower region of the backrest, and wherein a majority of the surface of the backrest cover is air-permeable and covers the air intake opening of the first fan and wherein air drawn into the first fan from the environment passes, to a large extent, through the air permeable regions of the backrest cover.

19. (original) An air conditioned seat according to claim 18, wherein at least one of the first or second fan comprises a radial or axial fan.

20. (original) An air conditioned seat according to claim 18, wherein the backrest cover comprises a dust or particle filter.